

What is claimed is:

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1. A distributed processing system comprising a plurality of  
clients linked in series, wherein at least one of said clients is  
5 operable in standalone fashion and has server functionality so  
that it executes processing in response to requests issued by  
other clients and outputs the results of the processing to said  
clients that issued such requests.

10 2. The distributed processing system according to claim 1,  
wherein processing of a POS application in a POS client  
having the server functionality includes at least one of the  
following: product registration, product search, transaction  
aggregation per transaction, tax aggregation per transaction,  
15 discount per target product, designation of payment method,  
settlement, transaction history registration, and operator  
authentication and registration.

3. A plurality of clients linked in series, wherein at least one  
20 of said clients is operable in standalone fashion and has  
server functionality so that it executes processing in response  
to requests issued by other clients and outputs the results of  
the processing to said clients that issued such requests.

25 4. The clients according to claim 3, wherein processing of a  
POS application in a POS client having the server functionality

